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Letter dated 26 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation concerning the illegally imprisoned citizens of Ukraine, Mykola Karpyuk and Stanislav Klykh (see annex).

I would appreciate your kind assistance in having the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 68 (c), and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Volodymyr **Yelchenko**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 26 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine on the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation concerning the illegally imprisoned citizens of Ukraine, Mykola Karpyuk and Stanislav Klykh

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine strongly condemns the decision of the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation on 26 October 2016 to uphold the sentences of the citizens of Ukraine, Mykola Karpyuk and Stanislav Klykh, who have been imprisoned by the Russian authorities to 22.5 and 20 years, respectively, in a colony on fabricated accusations of establishing armed groupings and of the felonious homicide of Russian servicemen during combat operations in the Chechen Republic in 1994 and 1995.

The politically motivated criminal cases concerning Mr. Karpyuk and Mr. Klykh, as well the Supreme Court's defiance of the facts presented by the defending party, which proves falsification of the case and numerous and severe irregularities in the judicial proceedings, provide yet more evidence of the absence in the Russian Federation of true and fair justice. The defiance of Ukraine's and the defending party's legal and justified demands on conducting an independent psychiatric examination of the health of Mr. Klykh is especially cynical and has been causing concern for a long time.

We demand that the State aggressor immediately release Mr. Karpyuk and Mr. Klykh, whose sentences have been politically motivated, and other citizens of Ukraine who are illegally detained in the Russian Federation under fabricated accusations.

We call upon the international community and human rights institutions to take all possible legal, political and economic actions in order to release and bring back to Ukraine its citizens, who have become political prisoners of the Kremlin, resulting from Russia's military aggression and illegal occupation of the sovereign territory of Ukraine.